Friday, April 4, 2014

Recent Series of Violent Crimes in the Area has the Village on Alert
Police have made arrests in several of the incidents, but residents should remain vigilant

There have been several violent crimes in our area recently. Although only one of them occurred within Chevy Chase Village, others have occurred so close to our community that the Village Police Department feels obligated to inform our residents to raise awareness to these events.

There have been five incidents that are of concern:

1. **March 13: Carjacking in the 100 block of E. Melrose Street @ 10:15 p.m.** (Chevy Chase Village). Arrests were made with two days by the US Park Police and Metropolitan Police (MPD) following a car chase which ended in NE Washington)

2. **March 19: Home invasion robbery in the 3700 block of Oliver Street, NW at 1:00 p.m.** (DC). MPD officers spotted the suspect right after the crime and arrested him after a foot chase.

3. **March 25: Carjacking in the 3300 block of Runnymede Place @ 7:15 p.m.** (DC).

4. **April 2: Carjacking near the intersection of Connecticut and Northampton @ 2:50 p.m.** (DC). MPD detectives arrested a juvenile for this event and the one below on 4/3. Other suspects remain at large.

5. **April 2: Forcible robbery in the 3200 block of Oliver Street, NW at 8:00 p.m.** (DC). MPD arrested a juvenile for this crime (see #4 above).

Crime Avoidance Tips:

- Police recommend that you scan the area before approaching your car. As you near your car, have your keys/remote control in your hand, **unlock the car just prior to reaching your car, get in quickly and lock the doors immediately.** Do not loiter once inside your car; drive away promptly.

- Village residents are reminded to exercise caution at all times prior to opening your front door in response to a knock or the ringing of a doorbell. **Keep your house locked when you are at home, and talk through the locked door to ascertain the identity and purpose of the person on the other side.** If you are suspicious or if you simply are not interested in the dealing with the person, do not unlock or open the door. Tell the person you are not interested, and call the Village Police Department at 301-654-7300. Village officers will respond right away and investigate.

- **If you spot anyone or anything suspicious, retreat to a public place and call the police immediately.** If you are accosted, do not resist. Comply with demands and call 9-1-1 as soon as it is safe for you to do so.